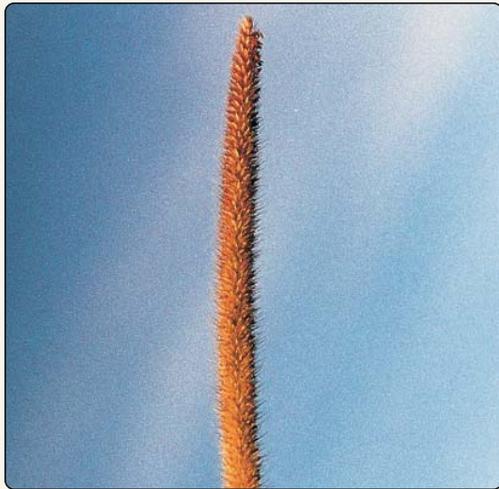


African feather grass (*Pennisetum macrourum*)



Flower head can be 10 to 30 cm long



Tough leaves have rolled edges when young

African feather grass is a large, clump forming perennial grass up to 1.2m tall that thrives in damp situations but can tolerate drought and establish itself on dry, shady banks.

The stout, erect clumps have tough leaves which have rolled-in edges when young. The flower heads are a long bristly spike, 10 to 30 cm long and 1 to 2 cm in diameter, coloured straw yellow to purplish, and appear from November to April.

The plants spread quickly by growth of the rhizomes, which can sometimes break off and be carried by cultivation equipment or water to colonise new areas. Bristles on the seeds allow them to stick to and be carried in clothing or animal hair or wool. Seeds are also dispersed by wind and water.

Individual plants can be grubbed or dug out. Larger infestations can be controlled with herbicide.

All sightings should be reported to your Regional Council, who will advise on control methods.